

Hunnewell Lake Conservation Area

About This Area

Hunnewell Lake Conservation Area is located in Shelby County near the town of Hunnewell. It is located west of Hannibal on Highway 36. Turn north at Route Z at the town of Hunnewell; go three miles and watch for the area sign at the main entrance road.

Hunnewell Lake Conservation Area covers 1,865 acres and includes a 228-acre lake, a fish hatchery and more than 1,590 acres of land open for public use.

Construction of Hunnewell Lake began in 1952, shortly after the land was purchased by the Conservation Department. The lake was opened for fishing in 1956 and hatchery construction began in 1958. Fish production began the following year.

Today, the hatchery raises a variety of fish including channel catfish, black crappie, largemouth bass and redear sunfish for stocking in Missouri ponds and lakes. Total production is about 700,000 fish per year from 16.3 acres of hatchery ponds. Hunnewell Lake provides the water supply for the hatchery.

There is a disabled-accessible fishing jetty and covered floating fishing dock. These two facilities can be reached by way of a concrete parking lot and concrete sidewalk.

The land that is now Hunnewell Lake Conservation Area was originally a tallgrass prairie that was sustained by rich, glaciated soils. After settlement, the original prairie was gradually replaced by cultivated fields or planted to hay crops, such as fescue.

Today, some remnant stands of prairie grasses remain on the area, but no true prairie exists. Cultivation of some fields continues; other fields are managed to encourage the growth of prairie grasses and other native plants.

The landscape is broken up by small wooded drainages which contain mostly pin oaks and

locust trees. On the south side of the lake, sheltering one of the area's two campgrounds, is a unique stand of old-growth white oak forest.

Things to Do

- Hunting. Hunnewell Lake Conservation Area is open for all statewide hunting seasons, except bullfrogs and green frogs, which are closed to hunting methods. Native game species such as whitetailed deer, turkey, quail, cottontail rabbits, squirrels and doves are the main species hunted. The spring turkey and fall firearms deer seasons are very popular.
- Fishing. Fishing is the most popular activity on the area. Hunnewell Lake contains channel catfish, blue catfish, largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill and redear sunfish in good numbers. Rental boats are available.
- Camping. Camping is permitted in the two campgrounds which have about 80 campsites combined.
- Hiking.
- Nature study and wildlife viewing. Shorebirds, raccoons, opossums, skunks, foxes and birds of prey are commonly seen.
- Outdoor photography.
- Picnicking.
- Frogging.

Rules and Regulations

Area hours: Open daily, 24 hours a day. Camping, hunting, fishing and boat rental are permitted at any time when authorized.

- No littering. Waste containers may be used only for disposal of trash generated on area.
- No fireworks.
- No open fires. All fires must be kept in metal containers.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only. Taking of wild greens from natural areas is not allowed.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to roadways and

parking areas. Speed limits are posted.

- Camping is permitted only in designated areas and is limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Groups of 10 campers or more must obtain a special use permit. Only one camping or sleeping unit (car, van, motor home, pickup truck, tent or travel trailer) permitted in each site.
- Campgrounds A and B (south side of the lake) are open to camping beginning the first Saturday after the last day of Spring Turkey Season and the second Saturday in September. Campground C is open all year.
- Bicycles are allowed only on trails designated for their use and on roads and trails open to vehicular traffic.
- No target shooting allowed.
- Swimming, scuba diving, water skiing and sailboarding are not allowed.

Fishing and Boating:

Fishing is permitted under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply.

- Only pole and rods with attached lines may be used, and not more than three poles or rods may be used by one person. Each angler shall use a separate stringer or creel.

Daily and Possession Limits

Species	Daily	Possession
Black Bass	6	12
Crappie	30	60
Catfish (all species)	4	8
Other Species	20	Statewide limits for all species

- All black bass more than 12 inches but less than 15 inches must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught. Total length is measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail with the fish laid flat on the rule with mouth closed and tail lobes pressed together. Head and tail must remain attached to creel fish with length limits while on the area or until checked by an agent of the Commission.
- Bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken during the statewide season only by hand, handnet, gig, longbow or hook and line and only on waters open to fishing from sunset June 30 through October 31. The daily and possession limit is eight frogs in the

aggregate.

- Carp may be taken by gig, longbow and cross-bow during daylight hours only throughout the year.

- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited on all impounded waters and their discharge channels.

- Privately owned boats prohibited. Boats (for fishing only) are available for a fee of \$5.00 per trip, not to exceed 24 hours. There are no motors available for rent at Hunnewell Lake. No bait is sold at Hunnewell Lake. Gas powered and electric motors are permitted. Outboard motors in excess of 10 horsepower must be operated at a no-wake speed. Boats must not be overloaded and must meet all regulations outlined by the Missouri State Water Patrol. Navigation lights are required between sunset and sunrise. An approved flotation device (not provided by the MDC) is required for each person in the boat. Cushions are available at boat rental area.

Hunting and Trapping:

Area is open to hunting under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply.

- Waterfowl hunting is permitted according to statewide regulations.

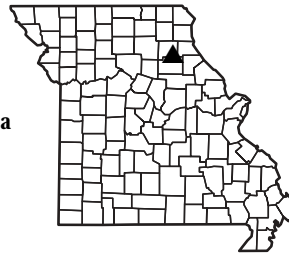
- Bullfrogs and green frogs may not be taken with a firearm.

- Only portable tree stands may be placed or used and only between Sept. 15 and Jan. 15. Each stand must be identified with the name and address of the user and must be removed from the area by Jan. 31. Use of nails or other materials that would damage the tree is prohibited.

- Trapping of furbearers is permitted only as specifically authorized by special use permit.

(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are from Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code.)

Hunnewell Lake
Conservation Area



Welcome

Missouri is a state rich in history, folklore and natural resources. The Conservation Department encourages you to visit, use and enjoy this area and other Department areas.

Land surrounding Hunnewell Lake Conservation Area belongs to private landowners. The boundaries adjoining private property are clearly marked. Please respect landowners' rights with these simple courtesies: obtain permission before going on private property, pick up all litter, be careful with fire, do not damage property, practice safe hunting.

Nearby Department Areas:

Arrow-Wood Conservation Area
Elmslie Memorial Conservation Area
Pin Oak Conservation Area
Sever (Henry) Conservation Area

For local information, contact:

Department of Conservation
6503 Hwy. Z
Hunnewell, MO 63443
573/983-2201

Your comments and suggestions regarding area facilities and management are welcome.

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Missouri Department of
CONSERVATION

